Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 CU-02 IO-10 NIC-01 AGR-05 EB-07

TRSE-00 SCCT-01 OPR-01 A-01 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 /106 W ------ 028012

R 051312Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3495

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 2632

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: ADDIS ABABA DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF LAND REFORM

PROCLAMATION

REF: ADDIS 2584

- 1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, GOVERNMENT "AUTHORIZED" DEMONSTRATION COMMENCED IN ADDIS ABABA AT APPROXIMATELY 0830 LOCAL MARCH 5. DEMONSTRATORS ESTIMATED AT 20 TO 30 THOUSAND, PRIMARILY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS WHO HAVE HOLIDAY FOR DEMONSTRATION. AS OF THIS WRITING, 1500 LOCAL, DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN PEACEFUL AND HELD IN FESTIVE AIR.
- $2. \ \ \mathsf{DEMONSTRATIONS} \ \mathsf{GENERALLY} \ \mathsf{CONDUCTED} \ \mathsf{BY} \ \mathsf{MANY} \ \mathsf{SMALL} \ \mathsf{GROUPS} \ \mathsf{ORGANIZED}$ $\mathsf{LIMITED} \ \mathsf{OFFICIAL} \ \mathsf{USE}$

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ACCORDING TO SCHOOL OR AFFINITY GROUP AND CARRYING PLACARDS,

FLAGS AND PALM BRANCHES, CHANTING AS THEY MARCHED. WIDE VARIETY OF SLOGANS PAINTED ON SIGNS, GIST OF WHICH GENERALLY PRO-SOCIALISM, PRO-LAND REFORM AND ANTI-FEUDAL, ANTI-IMPERIALIST. FOR COMIC RELIEF, ONE SIGN SAID "DOWN WITH PETTY BOURGEOIS SOCIALISM.

3. SOME GROUPS OF OLDER STUDENTS WEARING ZAMETCHA UNIFORMS CARRIED RED FLAGS, PICTURES OF LENIN AND MAO, HAMMER AND SICKLE EMBLEMS, AND A FEW SHOUTS OF "YANKEE GO HOME" WERE DIRECTED AT EMBOFF.

- 4. DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE UNTIL 1700 HOURS LOCAL. WE EXPECT FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS DURING THE COURSE OF THE WEEK, BOTH IN ADDIS ABABA AND OTHER CITIES.
- 5. REPORTS REACHING THE EMBASSY LATE MARCH 5 FROM DESSIE AND FAIR NUMBER OF OTHER UPCOUNTRY LOCATIONS (VIA UNDP'S EXPERTS) SUGGEST RURAL CENTERS GENERALLY CALM. WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINS, PINT, ET To: STATE

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